

**PARKS & RECREATION
PUBLIC HEARING
TUESDAY, AUGUST 9, 2005
6:30 P.M.**

A Public Hearing of the Parks and Recreation Board was held on the above date and time in the Council Chambers, 270 West 15th Street, Rushville, to receive public comment on the 5 Year Master Plan. President Denny Corn called the public hearing to order. Members present were David Hasecuster, Wilma Jo Kile and Tim Shuppert, Parks Director Danny Mathews, Attorney Julie Newhouse and Secretary Carla Sharpe. No one from the public was in attendance.

Sharpe went over the results from the survey with the board for the 5 Year Master Plan and all felt we received some great responses. We had 500 surveys filled out. (See survey)

There being no further comments, the public hearing was closed.

**PARKS & RECREATION MINUTES
TUESDAY, AUGUST 9, 2005
IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING PUBLIC HEARING**

Call to Order: The Parks & Recreation Board met on the above date and time in the Council Chambers, 270 West 15th Street, Rushville. President Denny Corn called the meeting to order. Members present were David Hasecuster, Wilma Jo Kile and Tim Shuppert. Jack Harmon and Jan Voiles were absent. Others present were Parks Director Danny Mathews, Attorney Julie Newhouse, Secretary Carla Sharpe, Pool Manager Anita Carfield and Mayor Bob Bridges.

Minutes: Minutes of July 12, 2005 was presented for approval. Shuppert moved to approve minutes as presented. Hasecuster seconded. Motion carried. Minutes approved.

Reports: Swimming Pool Report – Carfield reported that the average daily attendance this last month has been 131 patrons per day. We had 248 patrons attending on Raymond Gibson Day, July 24. Our average admission the past month was \$201.97 while concessions was \$129.43.

By the end of this evening we will have hosted 18 parties since the last meeting and 28 parties for the season.

Our last Open Swim in July from 6-7 included 36 patrons in attendance – our largest open swim of the season.

We have sold out of all major items in concessions and are now selling Snappy Pizza, Coke, Slushies, and candy bars. We have defrosted two of the freezers in concessions and are working on our deep cleaning of mats in the locker rooms since we are uncertain of our exact closing date depending on how the weekends go starting on the 13th.

We will lower our chlorine level Wednesday evening in order to conserve on cost and raise it on Friday to prepare for patrons on Saturday.

Overall, we have had a good season. The weather has been most cooperative this season and we have had a super pool staff. I would like to thank, Danny, Jean, Rita, and the Mayor's office for helping to make this a great season.

On a lighter note we had a most unusual save the end of July. A patron had dropped a gummy worm in the concessions areas. Due to the extreme heat, the gummy worm had melted and become very sticky. Apparently, a bird was enticed by this candy worm and became stuck to it. It was entirely immobilized by the worm. Georgia Osborne, one of our head guards, donned rubber gloves and carefully removed the bird from the cement along with much of the sticky candy. She then proceeded to dip the bird in a cup of water and pulled the sticky candy from its claws so it would not stick to a branch in a tree. The bird was then set free – glad – I'm sure, to be free of the fake worm.

The board thanked Carfield for a great season.

Mathews reported that Bobbie Wood and Patrick Hunter's last day was July 29th.

Courtney Cameron and Darrin Kessler are winding down.

It has been a very good year. Kids all worked well. Parks look nice.

Mathews reported he is very thankful for the staff he had.

- Reported he may need another temporary employee but will not do nothing now.
- Reported that there will be a Gospel Sing this Sunday at the Amphitheater at 4:00 p.m. and would appreciate everyone attending.
- Reported he was pleased to announce that we received \$3,733.33 from the Rush County Community Foundation for the widening of the Fitness Trail. With the \$3,700 from Rush Shelby Energy the widening of the Fitness Trail can take place now. We will start soon. Mathews is so thankful that they see our progress and feels that widening the path to 8 feet will be very nice.
- Reported that we did go ahead and put in a new road at the Amphitheater. The Street Department did the labor and he feels this is a good thing.
- Reported that the shuttle service at the Amphitheater went well. Great turnouts.

- The Movie in the Park was a great thing. He truly thinks big things will happen there and is so thrilled to be a part of it all.

Shuppert asked the board if anyone has truly thought about parking at the Amphitheater for a big paid concert. Bridges stated to date it hasn’t been a problem. Shuppert suggested making a parking lot in the back/west side. Mathews said at some point in time that may have to happen.

Mathews reported that Ed Dickson has dedicated himself for one hour a day to cut weeds in Riverside Park. He has been very dedicated. Mathews said he has mowed a 7 foot wide path back through the west and it is now a very pretty walk.

Skateboard Park Report – Very little activity at this time.

Claims: Reviewed prior to meeting by Hasecuster and Shuppert. Hasecuster moved to approve the claims for the month. Shuppert seconded. Motion carried. Claims approved.

Unfinished Business: Sharpe – 5 Year Master Plan – Priority Actions – Sharpe asked board members for their Priority Actions for the master plan. Different ideas were tossed about for each park such as new restrooms for Riverside Park, maintenance of walking trails, landscaping in all the parks, outdoor entertainment, maintenance of shelter houses, sealing of walking path, rip-rap Hodges branch and a new handicap assessable park. Bridges stated that the baseball people in the Westside Park are asking for more parking and he suggested they come to the next parks board meeting. Hasecuster stated he thinks the surveys were great but feels we have a skateboard park now and plenty of basketball goals. He feels that Riverside Park should stay with outdoor activities. He would like to host a fishing clinic as fishing, canoeing and kayaking were on the surveys. The board agreed this would be great.

Mathews stated that next months meeting he would like to have at the old park office. He and his staff have been working hard on it. They have done some remodeling and it looks good enough now to possibly rent out as a rental building. This building could be rented year around. He has purchased tables and chairs. It was decided to hold next months meeting there.

New Business: None at this time.

Items not known in advance: None at this time.

There being no further business, Kile moved to adjourn. Hasecuster seconded. Meeting adjourned at 8:05 P.M.

DENNY CORN, PRESIDENT

JACK HARMON, VICE PRESIDENT

TIM SHUPPERT, MEMBER

WILMA JO KILE, MEMBER

JAN VOILES, MEMBER

DAVID HASECUSTER, MEMBER

ATTEST:

CARLA SHARPE, SECRETARY